

29. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 28, wherein said opening is a slit.
30. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein said slit is an offset slit.
31. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein said slit is a vertical slit.
32. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein said slit is curved.
33. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein said slit is a closed slit.
34. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein said slit is an open slit.
35. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein said flap of said clothing comprises an upper edge when said clothing is hanging from the rod, and wherein said slit intersects with said upper edge of said flap.
36. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 28, wherein said fastener can also be used to hang said clothing from a hook.
37. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 28, wherein said opening is sufficiently large when said opening is in said open configuration such that the mounted rod can be passed through said opening to suspend said clothing on the rod, and wherein the mounted rod cannot be passed through said opening when said opening is in said closed configuration.
38. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in Claim 28, wherein said opening is a slit, said slit comprising a left edge and a right edge, said open configuration being a configuration in which said ring is flexed so that said left edge and said right edge of said slit are sufficiently far apart such that said ring can be inserted onto the rod by inserting the rod between said left edge and said right edge, and wherein said closed configuration is a configuration wherein said left edge and said right edge are sufficiently close together such that the rod does not pass between said left edge and said right edge.
39. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 28, wherein said fastener comprises a sliding member which is used to place said opening in said open configuration or said closed configuration.
40. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 28, wherein said fastener comprises a pivoting member which is used to place said opening in said open configuration or said closed configuration.

14 41. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 28, wherein said fastener comprises a pin and a channel, and wherein said pin is inserted into said channel when said opening is in said closed configuration.

15 42. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 38, wherein said fastener further comprises extensions for facilitating flexing of said ring to move said left edge and said right edge of said slit apart.

16 43. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 28, wherein said flap is removably ~~attached~~ attachable to said clothing.

16 44. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 43, wherein said flap is ~~removably~~ permanently attached using buttons to said clothing.

18 45. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 28, wherein said clothing is outerwear.

19 46. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 28, wherein said clothing is a shirt.

20 47. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 28, wherein said clothing is pants.

21 48. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 28, wherein said clothing is an apron.

22 49. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 28, wherein said clothing is an oven mitt.

23 50. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:  
providing a flap of material for use as part of an article of clothing for hanging the clothing on a mounted rod without the use of a hanger;

~~wherein said clothing comprises a flap; said flap comprising a fastener for attaching hanging said clothing to the mounted rod without removing the rod from its supports;~~

~~said fastener of said clothing comprising a ring, said ring comprising a slit, said ring being integrated into said material of said flap;~~

~~said slit of said ring comprising a left edge and a right edge, said ring being suitable for hanging on a rod or on another support and wherein, when said ring is used for hanging the clothing on a rod, the rod can be passed between said left edge and said right edge to insert said ring onto the rod and suspend said clothing from the rod.~~

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51. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture, comprising:  
an article of clothing for hanging ~~on a mounted rod~~ without the use of a hanger;  
wherein said clothing comprises a flap of material, said flap comprising a fastener for ~~attaching~~  
hanging said clothing ~~to the mounted rod without removing the rod from its supports;~~  
said fastener comprising a ring, said ring being integrated into said material of said flap, said ring  
comprising an opening, said opening comprising an open configuration and a closed configuration;  
wherein said fastener can be inserted onto a rod when said opening is in said open configuration,  
and wherein said fastener is secured to the rod to hang said clothing from the rod when said fastener  
is in said closed configuration.

25 52. (New) An article as claimed in claim 51, wherein said opening of said ring overlaps said material  
of said flap.

26 53. (New) An article as claimed in claim 51, wherein said opening is a slit.

27 54. (New) An article as claimed in claim 53 wherein said slit is an offset slit.

28 55. (New) An article as claimed in claim 53 wherein said slit is a vertical slit.

29 56. (New) An article as claimed in claim 53 wherein said slit is curved.

30 57. (New) An article as claimed in claim 53 wherein said slit is a closed slit.

31 58. (New) An article as claimed in claim 53 wherein said slit is an open slit.

32 59. (New) An article as claimed in claim 53 wherein said flap of said clothing comprises an edge  
when said clothing is hanging from the rod, and wherein said slit intersects with said edge of  
said flap.

33 60. (New) An article as claimed in claim 51, wherein said fastener can also be used to hang said  
clothing from a hook.

34 61. (New) An article as claimed in claim 51, wherein said opening is sufficiently large when said  
opening is in said open configuration such that the mounted rod can be passed through said  
opening to suspend said clothing on the rod, and wherein the mounted rod cannot be passed

35 through said opening when said opening is in said closed configuration.

36. (New) An article as claimed in claim 31, wherein said opening is a slit, said slit comprising a left edge and a right edge, said open configuration being a configuration in which said ring is flexed so that said left edge and said right edge of said slit are sufficiently far apart such that said ring can be inserted onto the rod by inserting the rod between said left edge and said right edge, and wherein said closed configuration is a configuration wherein said left edge and said right edge are sufficiently close together such that the rod does not pass between said left edge and said right edge.

37. (New) An article as claimed in claim 31, wherein said fastener comprises a sliding member which is used to place said opening in said open configuration or said closed configuration.

38. (New) An article as claimed in claim 31, wherein said fastener comprises a pivoting member which is used to place said opening in said open configuration or said closed configuration.

39. (New) An article as claimed in claim 31, wherein said fastener comprises a pin and a channel, and wherein said pin is inserted into said channel when said opening is in said closed configuration.

40. (New) An article as claimed in claim 32, wherein said fastener further comprises extensions for facilitating flexing of said ring to move said left edge and said right edge of said slit apart.

41. (New) An article as claimed in claim 31, wherein said flap is removably attached to said clothing.

42. (New) An article as claimed in claim 31, wherein said flap is permanently attached to said clothing.

43. (New) An article as claimed in claim 31, wherein said clothing is outerwear.

44. (New) An article as claimed in claim 31, wherein said clothing is a shirt.

45. (New) An article as claimed in claim 31, wherein said clothing is pants.

46. (New) An article as claimed in claim 31, wherein said clothing is an apron.

47. (New) An article as claimed in claim 31, wherein said clothing is an oven mitt.

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47. (New) A method as claimed in claim 28, wherein said opening of said ring overlaps said material of said flap.

48. (New) A method as claimed in claim 50, wherein said opening of said ring overlaps said material of said flap.

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Respectfully submitted,



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